

JPW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of
Larry G. INGRAHAM

Serial No.: 10/815,382

Filed: April 1, 2004

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Group Art Unit: 3726

Examiner: Jermie E. COZART

For: BASE SIGN WITH INTEGRAL SIGNAGE AND METHOD FOR ITS FABRICATION

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Sir:

By Official Action dated October 21, 2005, having a one-month shortened statutory period of response set to expire November 21, 2005, restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I. Claims 1-4 and 6-11, drawn to a method for fabricating a sign, classified in class 29, subclass 453; and

Group II. Claims 12-18 and 20, drawn to a sign, classified in class 40, subclass 584.

In response, Applicant hereby elects Group II; Claims 12-18 and 20 for examination in this case, with traverse.

According to the M.P.E.P. § 803, if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it may include claims to independent or distinct inventions.

The Examiner must show that there would be a serious burden if the restriction is not required. Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner nowhere contends, let alone demonstrates that a search of all the pending claims would be a serious burden. Further, at the Examiner's disposal are powerful electronic search engines providing the Examiner with the

ability to quickly and easily search all of the claims. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all pending claims.

AUTHORIZATION

No extension of time fee is believed due. The Commissioner is hereby authorized, however, to charge any extension of time fee or any additional fees which may be required for this Response, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-2036.

Respectfully submitted,

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